



Date: May 8, 2006
To: Gerald R. Miller, City Manager
From: Katherine Parsons, Public Information Officer
For: Mayor and Members of the City Council
Subject: City Report For Week Ending May 5, 2006

This *City Report* highlights various activities for the week ending May 5, 2006.

Consistent with our Focus on Results (FOR) Long Beach performance management efforts, we are now using "Citywide Focus Areas" to organize our weekly activities. These Focus Areas are built upon the broad categories identified in the Strategic Plan 2010 document and provide a comprehensive framework for communicating all City programs and services. It is our hope that this new framework, which will be used for a variety of City documents, will improve our ability to communicate information about the services we provide to both the City Council and the community.

I hope you will find this information useful and the new layout easy to understand. Please feel free to contact my staff should you have any questions.

MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Focus: Neighborhoods and Housing

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Planning and Development Bureau

Salvation Army officials unveiled a proposed 180,000-square foot community center to be built on what is currently known as Chittick Field, at the corner of Pacific Coast Highway and Walnut Avenue. Planned is a \$70-\$80 million education and community center facility, which will include class and meeting rooms, computer equipment, and family resources. There will be a gymnasium with four basketball courts, an elevated jogging path, weight and fitness areas, and a 750-seat amphitheater. Outdoors, the facility will have a climbing wall, a soccer field and an array of walking paths. There also will be three outdoor pools: a 50-meter pool, a wading pool, and a large play pool with slides and waterspouts. Organizers hope to break ground on the facility by 2007 and complete the project by September 2009.

Focus: Community Safety

Police and Fire

The Annual Long Beach Police and Fire Memorial Service was held May 2, at the Police and Fire Memorial, south of Broadway, at the foot of Chestnut Avenue. The ceremony paid tribute to those brave Police Officers and Firefighters who paid the ultimate price for public service and included a 21-gun salute.

MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Focus: Leadership, Management, and Support

Finance, Budget Management Division

The Fiscal Year 2007 Budget outreach process began on April 19, with a presentation to the Community Development Advisory Commission. This meeting marked the initiation of the City's direct community outreach on the development of the Fiscal Year 2007 Proposed Budget (October 1, 2006 - September 31, 2007). Two additional presentations were made to the Municipal Golf Commission and the North Long Beach Neighborhood Executive Committee. City staff will continue making presentations and seeking community input at dozens of neighborhood, commission, committee and board meetings during May and June.

Focus: Neighborhoods and Housing

Community Development, Neighborhood Services

The Neighborhood Leadership Program's (NLP) Class of 2006 participated in a weekend retreat at Pali Mountain on April 22-23. Several NLP alumni assisted class participants in developing their teambuilding and conflict resolution skills. Participants will present their team's Atlantic Avenue Corridor asset maps, which will describe the street and adjacent neighborhood's assets, issues, and opportunities. This information will be used as a basis for class projects. A list of residents interested in participating in the Class of 2007 is now forming. For more information, call 570.1010.

AWARDS and SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Focus: Leadership, Management, and Support

The Los Angeles Metropolitan Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) awarded City Manager Gerald Miller its Presidents Award for contributions and outstanding performance as the City Manager of the City of Long Beach. The development and implementation of the City's Financial Strategic Plan was recognized as a model for solving budget deficits. The Plan resulted in the elimination of over \$92 million of a projected \$102 million structural deficit over three years. The process utilized increased transparency and community involvement in the budget process and improved the City's overall credit rating. Noted as a "remarkable success story," the new approach improved public service and public confidence, and resulted in many contributions to the community.

ASPA has been the most respected organization in the field of Public Administration for more than 60 years, meeting the personal and professional needs of public employees, non-profit professionals, students and academicians. The Los Angeles Metropolitan Chapter of ASPA is the largest local chapter in the nation as well as one of the most active. ASPA's primary focus for the 2005/2006 year has targeted issues in the area of transportation, as well as performance and accountability in government. Another program ASPA supports is the Public Education Program for K-12 students.

AWARDS and SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Focus: Neighborhoods and Housing

Community Development, Project Development

The Douglas Park Project has been selected to receive the 2006 Planning Project Award for the Los Angeles Section American Planning Association (APA) Awards. As a Los Angeles Section winner, the Bureau's nomination also qualifies for submission at the state level to the California Chapter APA Awards Program.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS

Focus: Infrastructure

Planning and Building, Public Works

The Long Beach Planning Commission will hold the 2nd public hearing on the Long Beach Airport Terminal Area Improvement Project at 6:00 pm on **Thursday, May 11**. The hearing will be held at Long Beach City Hall, inside the Council Chambers. The meeting will give residents and other interested parties the opportunity to address issues related to the project. The **May 11** hearing will air live on LBTv, Channel 8, at 6:00 pm and at www.longbeach.gov, video live. It will be replayed on LBTv, Channel 8, and on streaming video at www.longbeach.gov, video archive. Available times to be announced.

In the event that the Planning Commission's decision is appealed, the City Council has scheduled a meeting on June 13 to hear the item, with a second hearing tentatively scheduled for June 20.

Focus: Neighborhoods and Housing

Community Development, Housing Services

The Housing Services Bureau will be hosting a Community Open House on **Wednesday, May 10** for the Atlantic Avenue Workforce Housing Development, proposed for a site on the west side of Atlantic Avenue between 20th and Hill Streets. The meeting will be held from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm at the Burnett Elementary Cafeteria located at 565 E. Hill Street. The six developers being considered to develop approximately 50 attached for-sale town homes will be present, and the community will have the opportunity to view their conceptual project designs as well as examples of their completed projects. The meeting will also include information on local hiring and training for construction jobs for the developments.

Focus: Community Safety

Community Development, Neighborhood Services

Representatives from the Commission on Youth and Children and staff were interviewed for a segment to be highlighted in the upcoming *Enough is Enough* community telethon, which will be televised on five local television channels in Long Beach and Signal Hill for 41 continuous hours from **May 12 through May 14**.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS

Focus: Community Safety

Community Development, Neighborhood Services (continued)

The segment, *Where the Voices of Youth Matter*, which is the Commission's new tagline, focuses on the Commission's emphasis on monitoring the conditions of Long Beach youth and children in order to advise the Mayor and City Council on matters that affect their well being. The show will feature an interview with the Commission; a view of the Commission's input on the Youth and Gang Violence Prevention Task Force; a consideration of violence in general; the value of meaningful youth engagement; an overview of the Profile of Long Beach Youth and Children; and the impact of District Level Youth Advisory Councils.

WEEKLY NEWS

Focus: Community Safety

Fire

The Fire Department responded to a total of 1,684 emergency calls for service: 147 calls for fires, of which 19 involved structures; 661 emergency medical calls, of which 468 required paramedics; three aircraft emergencies; and 16 HazMat calls.

Police

Citywide, police officers responded to 592 priority one, 1,608 priority two and 1,344 priority three calls for service, for a total of 3,534 responses.

The Traffic Section conducted a citywide warrant arrest operation. Warrants were issued to drivers who had been issued citations and failed to appear in court. Officers served 39 warrants and made eight arrests. One suspect had seven warrants totaling \$80,000.

Over the last month, a significant increase in auto burglaries was noted in the East Division. To help combat this increase, a parole sweep was conducted. The sting utilized East Division Directed Enforcement Team members, four patrol officers and seven parole agents. Officers conducted 23 parole searches resulting in 12 arrests.

A DUI checkpoint was conducted on April 28. Nationally, impaired driving caused by drugs and/or alcohol causes one death every 33 minutes. Studies show that sobriety checkpoints both reduce impaired-driving-related accidents and increase public awareness. The checkpoint was designed to quickly screen drivers while limiting their delay to less than three minutes. There will be checkpoints scheduled periodically throughout the spring/summer months.

City Manager and Community Development

A Human Dignity Program workshop, *Turning Hate Crimes into Community Harmony*, was held at the Neighborhood Resource Center on May 3.

WEEKLY NEWS

Focus: Community Safety

City Manager (continued)

More than 100 students received conflict resolution strategies and workforce development resources at the 3rd annual Youth Anti-Violence conference on April 29. The Human Dignity Program partnered with Long Beach City College to present the event.

Focus: Leisure, Culture and Education

Community Development, Neighborhood Services

The *First Spring Festival* at Drake Park, located in the Willmore Neighborhood Improvement Strategy Area, was held on Saturday April 29. The event included a May Pole Dance, living history tours at the Bembridge House, lunch and other activities for the attendees. Approximately 100 individuals participated in the event including Girl Scout Troop #246 that meets at the Willmore Community Police Center and Girl Scout Troop #953 from San Pedro. Staff from the Willmore Community Police Center, the Department, and the Long Beach Heritage Association assisted.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Enrichment Programs Bureau

Several hundred children and youth participated in the parade and enjoyed arts and crafts, sports, and games at the annual *Children's Day Celebration* held at Recreation Park on May 1.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Programs Bureau

More than 125 seniors attended a festive *Cinco De Mayo Celebration* on May 5, presented by the Latino Club of the Long Beach Senior Center. California Medicare Advantage and California Medical Group sponsored the entertainment.

Belmont Plaza Pool hosted the Moore League Swim Championships, with high school swim teams from Southern California from May 2 to May 5. Wilson, Polytechnic, Jordan, Millikan, and Lakewood High Schools competed in this year's event.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Special Events and Filming Bureau

With an estimated attendance of 50, the Misty May Beach Volleyball Clinic was held on the beach east of the Belmont Plaza Pool on April 29.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Special Events and Filming Bureau

An estimated 5,000 people attended the fourth annual *Mi Son Cubano Festival* at the Queen Mary Events Park on April 30.

Uprize/Diamondstar, with a cast and crew of 8, shot a student film *Basketball* at the Whaley Park basketball court on April 30.

WEEKLY NEWS

Focus: Transportation and Infrastructure

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Public Works

The gateway street medians on Del Amo Boulevard and Artesia Boulevard, located west of Long Beach Boulevard to the Los Angeles River, have been completed. The Department of Public Works managed the project design and construction.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Public Works

The installation of pool floor tile and the painting of the office walls continued at Silverado Park. The installation of the new waterproofing material for the shower rooms is complete. The Department of Public Works is managing the project design and construction.

Construction continued this week on the structural frame for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Park pool building. Construction is approximately 50% complete. The Department of Public Works is managing the project design and construction.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Maintenance Operations Bureau

Marine Maintenance staff placed ten memorial benches and trash receptacles on the Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier.

Focus: Leadership, Management, and Support

Library Services

The City Source Information Referral Desk, located in the City Hall Lobby, has a new telephone system. Residents who call the information number, 570.6555, will hear a recorded message and staff will answer the calls in the order that they are received.

Focus: Utilities

Long Beach Gas & Oil, Gas Services Bureau

Staff completed a total of 2,720 service calls. This total included 774 Water Utility Turn Ons, and 674 Turn Offs. During this period, 995 Customer Service Orders were completed for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders, and verifying read orders. A total of 277 meter maintenance and billing-related orders were completed. In addition, Gas Control/Dispatch (24/7 operation) received 299 emergency phone calls that resulted in 53 emergency orders being sent out.

Focus: Business and Economic Assistance

Finance, Purchasing Division

The Purchasing Division recorded the following activity during the first (calendar) quarter of 2006, from January 1 – March 31:

Total number of prospective bidders that chose to download information: 959

- Local 207
- MBE 149
- WBE 143

WEEKLY NEWS

Focus: Business and Economic Assistance

Finance, Purchasing Division (continued)

Total number of local vendors contacted for business outreach by the Local Business Liaison: 528

- Number of new businesses registered to receive bid notifications: 422
- Number of Contracting Opportunities posted on the Internet: 52
- Number of Local Businesses notified of a bid: 892
- Number of MBE businesses notified of a bid: 829
- Number of WBE businesses notified of a bid: 696

Focus: Transportation and Infrastructure

Street Construction Report

Long Beach Gas and Oil, Gas Regulator Station Rebuild

Contact: 570.2060

Colorado St. and Nieto Ave.

Estimated Completion: May

Long Beach Gas and Oil, Gas Pipe Installation

Contact: 570.2060

Stearns St.

Between Clark Ave. & Bellflower Blvd.

Estimated Completion: June

Long Beach Gas and Oil, Gas Pipe Installation

Contact: 570.2060

Gateway West area

Between Maine Ave. & Pacific Ave.

Between 6th St. & 3rd St.

Estimated Completion: July

Water Department, Sewer & Sewer Lift Station Modifications

Contact: 570.2323

Magnolia Ave.

Between Ocean Blvd. and Broadway Ave.

Estimated completion: October

Public Works, Street Improvement

Contact: 570-5160

Cherry Ave.

Spring St. to Bixby Rd.

Estimated completion: May

GRM: KP: arc

cc: Christine Shippey, Assistant City Manager
Reginald Harrison, Deputy City Manager
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City Manager Department Heads
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